

Message

From: EPA Press Office [press@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/6/2020 11:00:32 AM
To: adm15.arwheeler.email [adm15.arwheeler.email@epa.gov]
Subject: ***MEDIA ADVISORY*** EPA Administrator Wheeler to Hold Virtual Press Conference with Congressman Díaz-Balart, Miami-Dade Mayor Giménez on WIFIA Announcement

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

EPA Administrator Wheeler to Hold Virtual Press Conference with U.S. Congressman Díaz-Balart, Miami-Dade Mayor Giménez on WIFIA Announcement

WASHINGTON (August 6, 2020) — Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler, U.S. Congressman Mario Díaz-Balart (FL-25), Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, and Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker will hold a virtual press conference on a Miami Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) announcement.

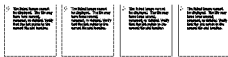
WHO: EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler
U.S. Congressman Mario Díaz-Balart (FL-25)
Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez
EPA Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker

WHAT: Miami WIFIA Virtual Press Conference

WHEN: Thursday, August, 6
10:00 AM ET

Credentialed media: RSVP to press@epa.gov to attend. This event will be livestreamed [here](#).

Visit The EPA's Newsroom



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20004



[Unsubscribe](#)

Message

From: EPA Press Office [press@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/12/2021 3:00:36 PM
To: adm15.arwheeler.email [adm15.arwheeler.email@epa.gov]
Subject: EPA Invites 55 New Projects to Apply for WIFIA Loans to Improve Water Quality

**EPA Invites 55 New Projects to Apply for WIFIA Loans to Improve
Water Quality**

*Projects will provide water infrastructure upgrades for 30 million Americans while
creating over 40,000 jobs*

WASHINGTON (January 12, 2021) – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that 55 new projects in 20 states are being invited to apply for approximately \$5.1 billion in Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loans. This funding will help finance over \$12 billion in clean water and drinking water infrastructure projects to protect public health and improve water quality in communities across the United States.

“EPA built one of the greatest financing tools for investing in America’s water infrastructure in history when it stood up the WIFIA program in 2018,” **said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler**. “These 55 new projects will facilitate \$12 billion in water infrastructure to help address some of the most pressing challenges faced by water systems across this country.”

Since the first WIFIA loan closed in 2018, EPA has announced 41 WIFIA loans that are providing \$7.8 billion in credit assistance to help finance \$16.8 billion for water infrastructure while creating more than 38,800 jobs and saving ratepayers \$3.7 billion. EPA received 67 letters of interest from both public and private entities in response to the [2020 WIFIA Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\)](#). After a robust statutorily required review process, the WIFIA Selection Committee chose 55 prospective borrowers’ projects to submit applications for loans and placed three prospective borrowers on a waitlist.

The WIFIA program is expanding its geographic scope by inviting entities from Alabama, Iowa, Ohio, Texas, and West Virginia for the first time. Four prospective borrowers that submitted letters of interest in response to a previous WIFIA Notice of Funding Availability resubmitted them for 2020 and have been invited to proceed in the 2020 funding round. Seven borrowers who have already received a WIFIA loan or are in the process of closing a loan have been invited to apply for additional financing. This action complements EPA November 2020 announcement that California, Iowa, and Rhode Island were invited to apply for a total of \$695 million in loans through EPA’s new state infrastructure financing authority WIFIA (SWIFIA) program.

Selected Projects

- **Birmingham Water Works (Alabama):** Infrastructure Repair and Rehabilitation Project; \$147 million
- **City of Escondido (California):** Lake Wohlford Dam Replacement Project; \$42 million
- **City of Oxnard (California):** Aquifer Storage Recovery Project; \$29 million
- **City of Palo Alto (California):** Regional Water Quality Control Plant Secondary Treatment Upgrades Project; \$66 million
- **City of San Buenaventura (California):** VenturaWaterPure; \$125 million
- **City of San Diego (California):** Pure Water San Diego Program Phase 1: North City Project; \$74 million

- **City of San Diego (California):** Stormwater Capital Improvement Program; \$263 million
- **City of Santa Monica (California):** Sustainable Water Supply Program; \$84 million
- **City of Vallejo (California):** FY20-21 to FY24-25 Capital Improvement Program; \$24 million
- **East Bay Municipal Utility District (California):** Water Treatment Plants Improvements Program; \$209 million
- **Inland Empire Utilities Agency (California):** Regional Wastewater System Improvements Program; \$94 million
- **Orange County Water District (California):** PFAS Treatment Projects; \$173 million
- **Oro Lomo Sanitary District (California):** Sewer Collection System Pipeline Rehabilitation and Replacement Project; \$26 million
- **Rancho California Water District (California):** Vail Dam Seismic and Hydrologic Remediation Project; \$42 million
- **Sacramento County Water Authority (California):** Arden Service Area Distribution System Pipe Realignment and Meter Installation Project; \$59 million
- **Silicon Valley Clean Water (California):** Regional Environmental Sewer Conveyance Upgrade Phase 2; \$38 million
- **Silicon Valley Clean Water (California):** Wastewater Treatment Plant Reliability Upgrades; \$70 million
- **Union Sanitary District (California):** Enhanced Treatment and Site Upgrade Phase 1 Projects; \$198 million
- **Water Replenishment District of Southern California (California):** PFAS Remediation Program; \$51 million
- **West Valley Water District (California):** Oliver P. Roemer Water Filtration Facility Expansion Project; \$25 million
- **City of Englewood (Colorado):** Englewood One Water Modernization Program; \$45 million
- **City of Fort Lauderdale (Florida):** Seven Neighborhood Stormwater Improvements; \$104 million
- **City of Miami Beach (Florida):** Sewer and Stormwater Pump Station Upgrades; \$31 million
- **City of Orlando (Florida):** Iron Bridge Regional Water Reclamation Facility Pretreatment Improvements and Reclaimed Water Storage and Repump Facility; \$18 million
- **Miami-Dade County (Florida):** North District and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants Ocean Outfall Legislation Projects; \$404 million
- **Sarasota County Government (Florida):** Bee Ridge Water Reclamation Facility Expansion and Advanced Wastewater Treatment Conversion Project; \$132 million
- **DeKalb County (Georgia):** Water Infrastructure Renewal Program; \$253 million
- **City of Cedar Rapids (Iowa):** Water Pollution Control Facility Improvements; \$218 million
- **Chicago Department of Water Management (Illinois):** Water Main and Lead Service Line Replacement Program; \$336 million
- **City of Evanston (Illinois):** 36"/42" Raw Water Intake Replacement; \$27 million

- **Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (Illinois):** Capital Improvement Projects; \$98 million
- **City of Bonner Springs (Kansas):** Water Supply & Treatment Plant Project; \$11 million
- **Johnson County Wastewater (Kansas):** Wastewater Integrated Management Plan: Foundation Project Delivery Program; \$243 million
- **Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas (Kansas):** Kansas City, Kansas Community-Based Partnership - Stormwater Program; \$78 million
- **Springfield Water and Sewer Commission (Massachusetts):** Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Renewal Program; \$252 million
- **Baltimore City Department of Public Works (Maryland):** Wastewater Rehabilitation Program 2020; \$64 million
- **Baltimore City Department of Public Works (Maryland):** Water Infrastructure Rehabilitation 2020; \$29 million
- **Howard County (Maryland):** Ellicott City Safe & Sound Plan; \$83 million
- **Johnston County (North Carolina):** Wastewater Treatment Improvements Program; \$50 million
- **Erie County Water Authority (New York):** Strategic Plan Improvements Project; \$24 million
- **Water Authority of Great Neck North (New York):** Watermill Lane Emerging Contaminant Water Treatment and Watermain Upgrade Projects; \$16 million
- **City of Dayton, Department of Water (Ohio):** Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements Program; \$73 million
- **City of Lorain (Ohio):** Water Treatment Plant Improvements; \$30 million
- **City of Gresham and Rockwood Water People's Utility District (Oregon):** Cascade Groundwater Development; \$54 million
- **City of Sandy (Oregon):** Wastewater System Improvements Project - Phase 1; \$33 million
- **Medford Water Commission (Oregon):** Rogue Valley Water Supply Resiliency Project; \$58 million
- **Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (Pennsylvania):** Clearwell Replacement Projects; \$128 million
- **Metro Water Services (Tennessee):** Process Advancements at Omohundro and K.R. Harrington Water Treatment Plants Project; \$129 million
- **City of Pflugerville (Texas):** Water Treatment Plant Expansion; \$42 million
- **City of Provo (Utah):** Aquifer, Storage, and Recovery Program; \$34 million
- **City of Emporia (Virginia):** Water and Sewer Infrastructure Improvement Program; \$12 million
- **Prince William County Service Authority (Virginia):** Booster Pump Station, Water Main Construction, and SCADA System Upgrade; \$40 million
- **Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (Wisconsin):** Waterway Flood Management and Restoration Projects; \$126 million
- **Weirton Area Water Board (West Virginia):** Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project; \$12 million

- **Weirton Sanitary Board (West Virginia):** Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project; \$12 million

Waitlist Projects

- **Santa Clara Valley Water District (California):** Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project; \$693 million
- **City of Joliet (Illinois):** Alternative Water Source Program; \$441 million
- **Southland Water Agency (Illinois):** Southland Water Agency Infrastructure System; \$701 million

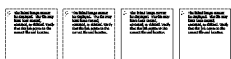
To learn more about the 55 projects that are invited to apply, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/wifia/wifia-selected-projects>

Background on WIFIA

Established by the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, the WIFIA program is a federal loan and guarantee program administered by EPA. WIFIA's aim is to accelerate investment in the nation's water infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost supplemental credit assistance for regionally and nationally significant projects. The WIFIA program has an active pipeline of pending applications for projects that will result in billions of dollars in water infrastructure investment and thousands of jobs.

###

Visit The EPA's Newsroom



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20004



[Unsubscribe](#)

Message

From: EPA Press Office [press@epa.gov]
Sent: 10/19/2020 8:30:09 PM
To: adm15.arwheeler.email [adm15.arwheeler.email@epa.gov]
Subject: Administrator Wheeler Concludes South Florida Visit

Administrator Wheeler Concludes South Florida Visit

.....

Boca Raton, Fla. (Oct. 19, 2020) – Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Wheeler concluded a visit through southeast Florida where he led a naturalization ceremony for new U.S. citizens, held a roundtable with the Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to discuss Puerto Rico recovery efforts, and announced

the launch of the Trump Administration's U.S Federal Strategy for Addressing the Global Issues of Marine Litter.

"My visit to South Florida has been one of the most rewarding periods of my time running this agency," said **EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler**. "Welcoming new citizens, helping Puerto Rico recover from recent natural disasters, and announcing a major new strategy for cleaning up our oceans is exactly what EPA should be doing to help this nation get cleaner, healthier, and moving forward together."

Administrator Wheeler kicked off his day by leading a naturalization ceremony for new U.S. citizens in Miami. During his remarks, Administrator Wheeler welcomed our newest citizens by emphasizing the fundamental ideals of the U.S., highlighted the success of our nation through individual perseverance and pursuit of happiness, and thanked those in attendance for making their journey to become citizens.

Following the naturalization ceremony, Administrator Wheeler held an event in Doral with federal partners, local officials, and the Florida State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce where to discuss the critical recovery work EPA is conducting in Puerto Rico. He was joined by U.S. Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25), Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez, EPA Region 2 Administrator Pete Lopez, EPA Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker, U.S. Coast Guard Rear Admiral Peter Brown, Doral Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez, and Florida State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce President Julio Fuentes.

During the event, Administrator Wheeler highlighted ongoing recovery work still being done following Hurricanes Irma and Maria and earthquakes and discussed the ongoing work to build local government capacity and ensure that government management systems are reliable and sustainable in Puerto Rico. He noted that EPA has sought to improve solid waste management, mitigate the leaking of underground storage tanks, invest in clean water and drinking water infrastructure, invest in septic systems, and promote workforce development training.

"Through my role on the Appropriations committee, I have successfully pushed for resilient construction and funding following the natural disasters that have devastated Puerto Rico. While the island continues its recovery efforts, this administration has gone above and beyond - providing approximately \$43 billion for disaster recovery and resources. I'm proud to be a long-time champion of Puerto Rico, and I am grateful for the great work that the EPA and Administrator Wheeler have contributed to these efforts," said **U.S. Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25)**.

"I want to thank EPA Administrator Wheeler for his agency's diligent work to help our community and our nation," said **Mayor Carlos A. Giménez**. "Whether it's recovery efforts after a natural disaster here or in Puerto Rico or anywhere else in the United States, or helping Miami-Dade County upgrade its sewer system, the EPA has been an exceptional partner."

“All of us were very proud and excited to be able to share the transformative work we are doing in support of the people of Puerto Rico,” **said EPA Region 2 Administrator Pete Lopez**. “We are very thankful for the close support of Administrator Wheeler and Rear Admiral Brown on behalf of President Trump. With their encouragement, we are changing lives for the better.”

Administrator Wheeler then held a roundtable at Florida Atlantic University’s Boca Raton campus where he announced the launch of the Trump Administration’s U.S Federal Strategy for Addressing the Global Issues of Marine Litter. Administrator Wheeler was joined by U.S. Congressman Brian Mast (FL-18), U.S. Department of Energy Deputy Secretary Mark Menezes, Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality Mary Neumayr, and EPA Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker.

The federal strategy will focus on building capacity, incentivizing the global recycling market, promoting research and development, promoting marine litter removal, and leading international efforts to curb global marine litter. Currently, through EPA’s Trash Free Waters program, EPA works directly with states, municipalities, and businesses to reduce litter, prevent trash from entering waterways, and capture trash that is already in our waters.

Later this evening, Administrator Wheeler will also hold a call with stakeholders to discuss the action plan.

Read details of the U.S Federal Strategy for Addressing the Global Issues of Marine Litter here: <https://www.epa.gov/international-cooperation/united-states-federal-strategy-addressing-global-issue-marine-litter>

“It’s scary to think about how much waste - especially plastic - is polluting our environment. Ocean plastics are destroying ecosystems, killing marine life and littering our beaches,” **said Rep. Brian Mast (FL-18)**. “This is a problem that is only going to get worse until we come together to do something about it. Together with the help of the EPA and other agencies, I’m confident that we can get serious about removing pollution from our environment and preventing it from getting there in the first place. The health of our waterways depends on it.”

“Through our National Laboratories, our universities, and American industry, this program will develop new technologies to keep plastics from entering the ocean, new methods to deconstruct existing plastic waste and upcycle it, and new plastics specifically designed to be recycled,” **said Deputy Secretary of Energy Mark W. Menezes**. “While the U.S. is not the world’s driver of the marine plastic problem, we intend to drive the solution.”

“As the Trump Administration continues to advance the nation’s economic, security, and environmental interests, we must address this significant problem impacting the world’s oceans,” **said CEQ Chairman Mary Neumayr**. “CEQ looks forward to continuing

to work with EPA, NOAA, DOE, and all of the Federal agencies to implement this important Strategy.”

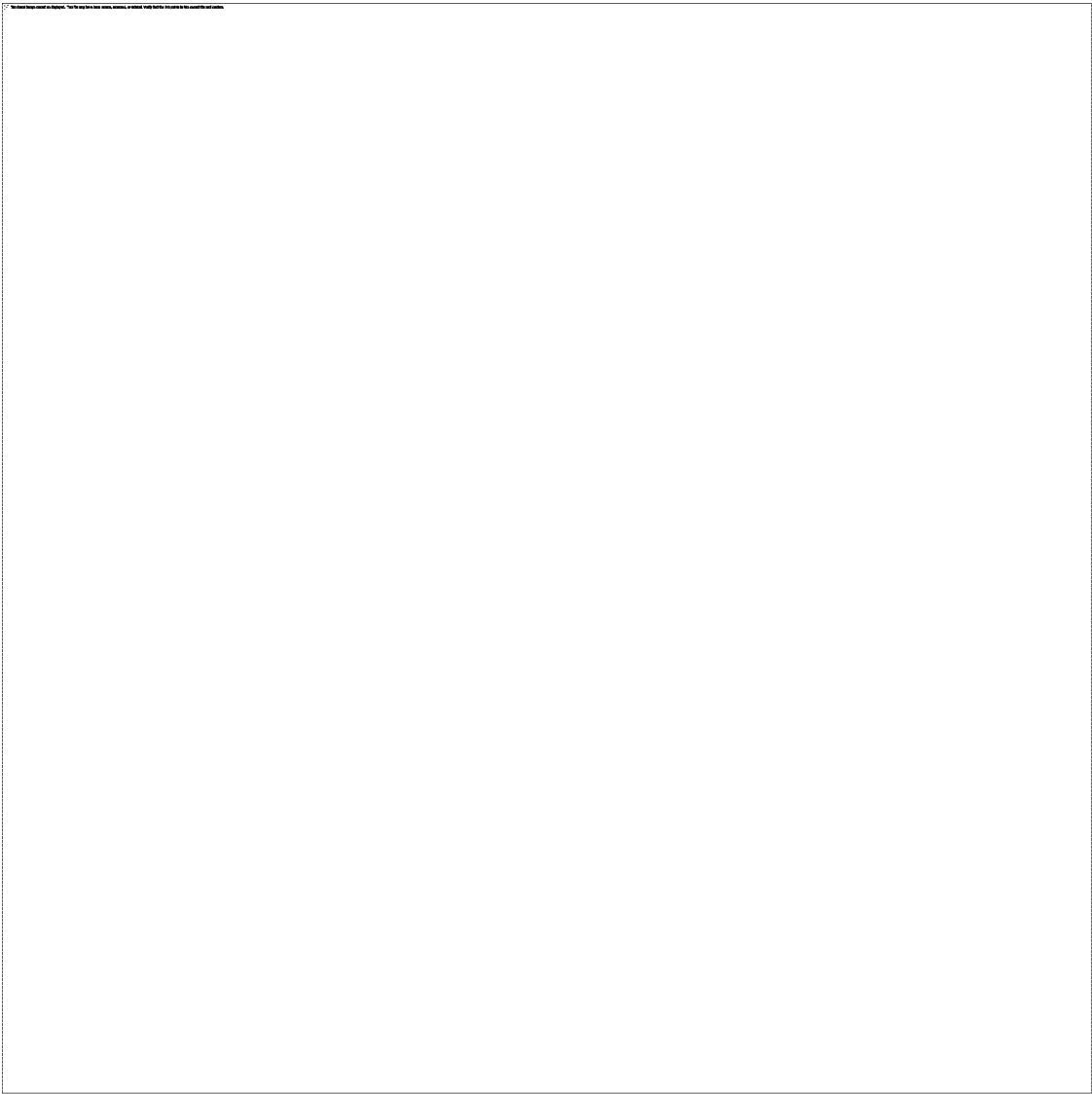
“We recognize that the U.S. cannot solve this global problem alone,” **said EPA Office of International and Tribal Affairs Assistant Administrator Chad McIntosh**. “Oceans are our shared resource and when we all work together we can protect this resource from marine litter while growing key economic sectors such as tourism and fishing.”

“The majority of the plastic pollution that enters the ocean comes from rapidly growing cities in the developing world that lack effective waste-management systems,” **said United States Agency for International Development Acting Administrator John Barsa**. “As part of President Trump’s vision, the U.S. Agency for International Development is working with local governments, communities, and the private sector in key countries to reduce ocean plastic pollution by strengthening systems to manage solid waste and promoting the ‘3Rs’ (reduce, reuse, recycle).”

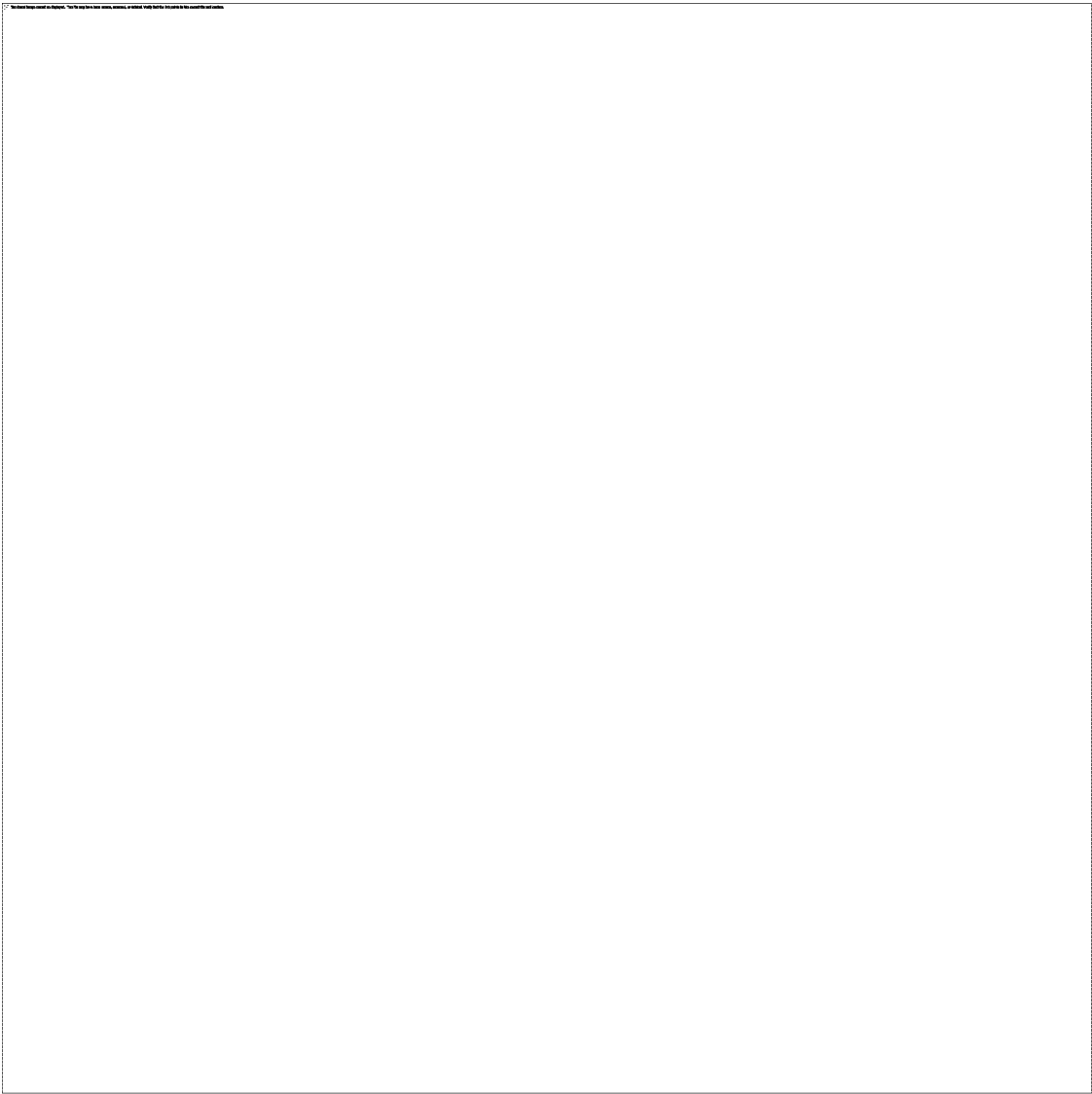
“A clean ocean is the bedrock of the American Blue Economy,” **said retired Navy Rear Admiral Tim Gallaudet, Ph.D., assistant secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and deputy NOAA administrator**. “NOAA’s Marine Debris Program is a core component of this U.S. Marine Litter Strategy, and we are committed to working with EPA and our partners to address the global issue of marine litter. This work is critical to healthy oceans and the coastal communities and economies that depend upon them.”

“It’s critical for our coastal habitats and economy to ensure our waters remain litter free,” **said EPA Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker**. “This initiative reinforces the Trump Administration’s commitment as a global leader in advocating for cleaner oceans.”

###

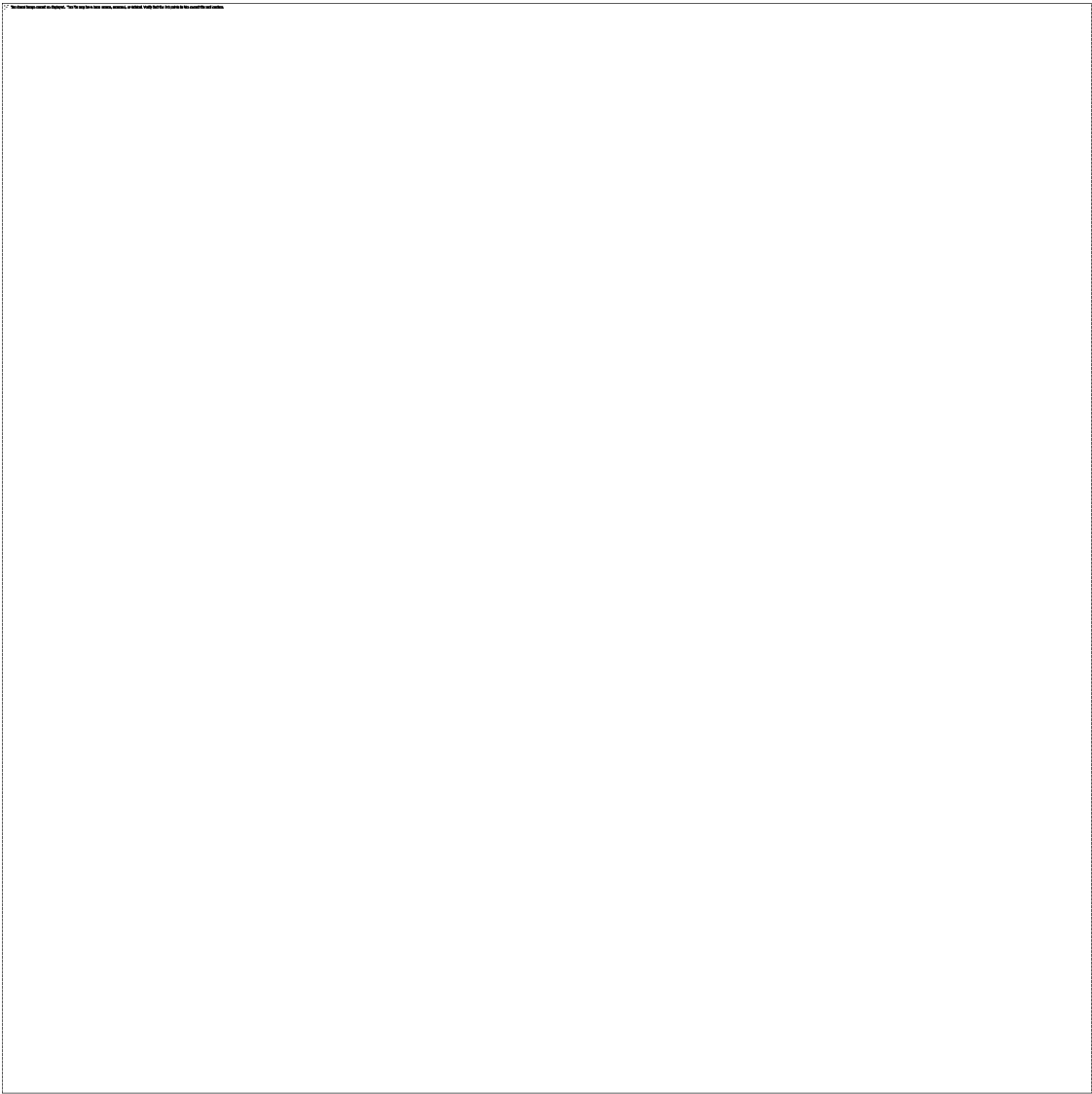


Administrator Wheeler leads a naturalization ceremony for new U.S. citizens in Miami.



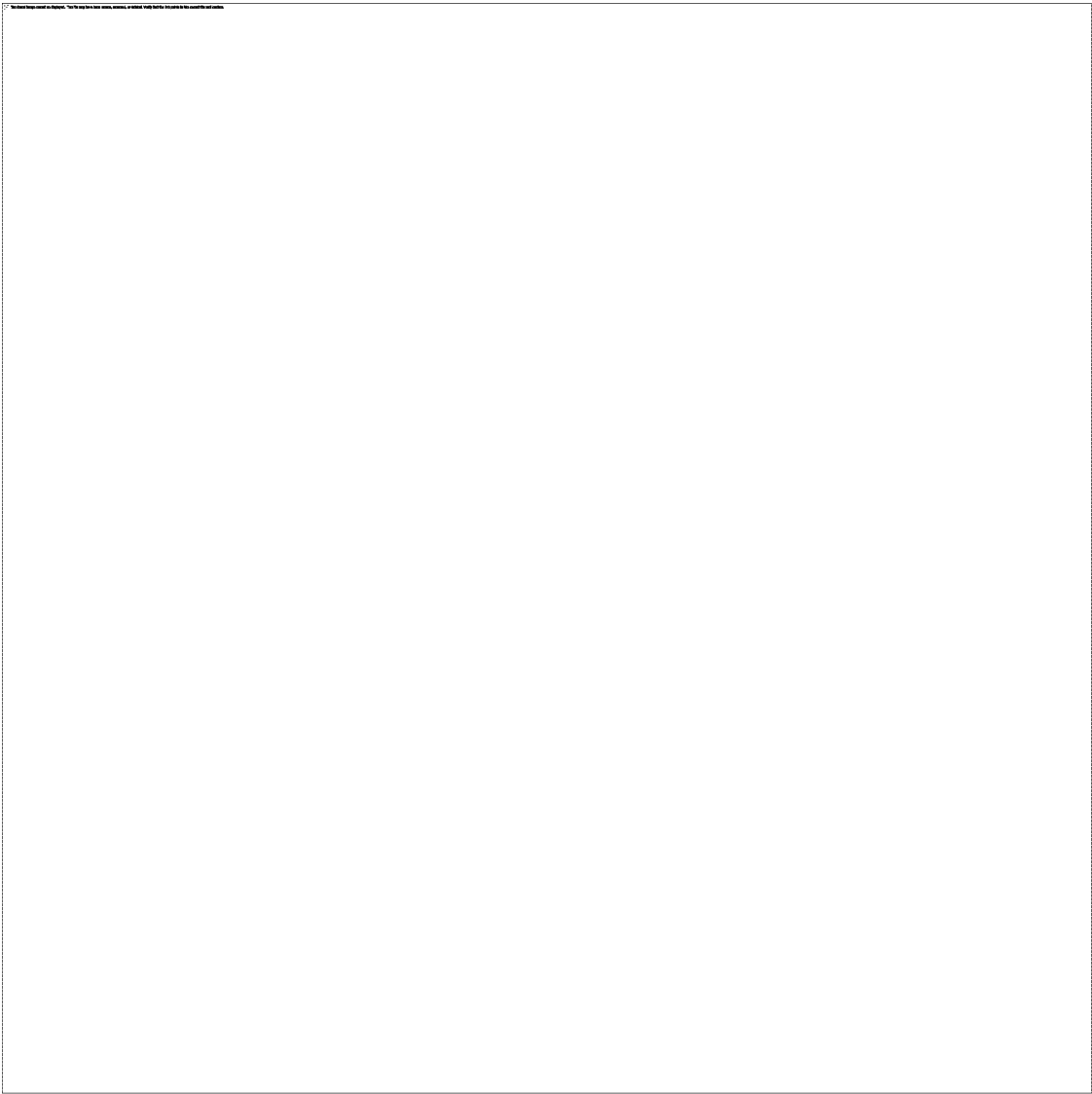
Administrator Wheeler speaks about the critical recovery work EPA is conducting in Puerto Rico with federal partners, local officials, and the Florida State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx



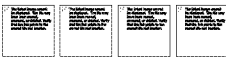
Administrator Wheeler delivers remarks to launch Trump Administration's strategy on addressing global marine litter.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx



Administrator Wheeler and Rep. Mast participate in a discussion on global marine litter.

Visit The EPA's Newsroom



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20004

 **Share**

 **Tweet**

 **Share**

 **Forward**

[Unsubscribe](#)

Message

From: EPA Press Office [press@epa.gov]
Sent: 10/16/2020 2:01:16 PM
To: adm15.arwheeler.email [adm15.arwheeler.email@epa.gov]
Subject: ***MEDIA ADVISORY*** Administrator Wheeler to Hold Roundtable with the Florida State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

**Administrator Wheeler to Hold Roundtable with the Florida State
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**

MIAMI (October 16, 2020) — On Monday, October 19, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler, U.S. Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25), Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez, EPA Region 2 Administrator Pete Lopez, EPA Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker, U.S. Coast Guard Rear Admiral Peter Brown, Doral Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez, and Florida State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce President Julio Fuentes will hold a roundtable in Doral, Florida.

During the roundtable they will discuss ongoing recovery efforts in Puerto Rico following the Hurricanes Maria and Irma and earthquakes. Following the roundtable, Administrator Wheeler will participate in a media availability.

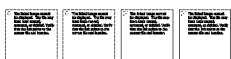
WHO: EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler
U.S. Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25)
Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez
EPA Region 2 Administrator Pete Lopez
EPA Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker
U.S. Coast Guard Rear Admiral Peter Brown
Doral Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez
Florida State Hispanic Chamber President Julio Fuentes

WHAT: Roundtable Discussion on Puerto Rico Recovery Efforts

WHEN: Monday, October 19
10:00 AM ET

Credentialed media must RSVP to press@epa.gov attend. The event will not be livestreamed.

Visit The EPA's Newsroom



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20004



[Unsubscribe](#)

Message

From: EPA Press Office [press@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/6/2020 3:01:48 PM
To: adm15.arwheeler.email [adm15.arwheeler.email@epa.gov]
Subject: EPA Announces Additional \$235 Million Water Infrastructure Loan for Miami-Dade County

EPA Announces Additional \$235 Million Water Infrastructure Loan for Miami-Dade County

Loan marks third investment in past two years to update city's water infrastructure

WASHINGTON (August 6, 2020) — Today, through a virtual event with U.S. Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25) and Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez, U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler announced a new \$235 million Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan to Miami-Dade County to help finance improvements and expansion of wastewater treatment facilities. The new loan continues EPA's partnership with Miami-Dade County, which is working to reduce nutrient discharges, eliminate the use of ocean outfalls and also to reuse 60 percent of wastewater flows.

"Today, we commemorate the third low-interest WIFIA loan to Miami-Dade County — providing a total of \$660 million to finance projects costing over \$1.3 billion — in less than two years," **said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler**. "President Trump's EPA is collaborating with local partners to tackle the most pressing water challenges, while at the same time saving rate-payers \$200 million and creating more than 500 jobs. The benefits to Miami-Dade County include reducing excess nutrients, improving the water quality in Biscayne Bay, and supporting the county's efforts to promote water reuse."

"I'm honored to have joined Administrator Wheeler, Regional Administrator Walker, and Mayor Carlos Gimenez to celebrate the third investment to help improve and advance the Miami-Dade County's wastewater treatment facilities," **said U.S. Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25)**. "Having worked on funding for this program through my role on the Appropriations Committee, I know how far these dollars will go in our County. I cannot thank Administrator Wheeler and the Trump Administration enough for their commitment to the betterment of our nation, and Mayor Gimenez for his leadership and dedication to our community."

"As the largest water and sewer utility in the southeastern United States, that serves more than 2.3 million people every day, it is vital that the system is resilient and has the flexibility to continuously serve the community even during severe weather events," **said Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez**. "The upgrades that result from Miami-Dade County's third consecutive partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency not only benefit increased service reliability for our community, but will benefit the environment, as well."

"Water infrastructure plays an essential role in our state, both for the economy and for protecting the environment," **said U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL)**. "I have championed WIFIA funds on the Appropriations committee, and I remain committed to Florida's water quality as a matter of highest importance. These federal funds are an important investment to update and improve water systems in Miami-Dade County. I thank the Administration for its continued commitment to ensuring Florida receives the federal funding our state needs, especially federal funding to protect Florida's environment."

"Rebuilding aging water infrastructure across the Southeast is one of EPA's top priorities," **said Region 4 Administrator Mary S. Walker**. "Through this project, EPA is continuing to invest in wastewater infrastructure improvements in Miami-Dade - which

will in turn result in environmental, quality of life and public health benefits in our communities.”

Funding provided under this WIFIA loan will finance upgrades at the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD)’s three wastewater treatment plants. Collectively, the upgrades will add system-wide capacity flexibility, assist in fulfilling state and federal requirements, as well as contribute to the wastewater treatment plants being more robust, resilient facilities that allow for continuous operation during severe weather events.

“Being awarded a third consecutive WIFIA low interest loan is extremely gratifying because we are not only able to accelerate upgrades that will result in system-wide improvements, but provide much needed employment opportunities, while saving our rate-payers more than \$80 million during the course of the loan” **said WASD Director Kevin Lynskey.**

WASD’s South District Wastewater Treatment Plant (SDWWTP) Expansion will increase the permitted treatment capacity from 112.5 million gallons per day (MGD) to 131 MGD annual average daily flow and increase the peak hourly flow capacity of the facility. The department will also construct new municipal injection wells at the North and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs), which will help fulfill requirements of the state of Florida’s Ocean Outfall Legislation. The wastewater conveyance system to the three wastewater plants is interconnected, so flow can be directed between WWTPs to allow for operational flexibility. By increasing capacity at SDWWTP, service for the whole regional system improves.

The South District Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and North and Central District Injection Wells Project will cost \$480 million. EPA’s WIFIA loan will finance nearly half of that figure—up to \$235 million. Additionally, the project will be financed by the Florida Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

Through WIFIA, EPA is playing a critical role in President Trump’s efforts to upgrade infrastructure and benefit communities across the nation. To date, EPA has issued 25 WIFIA loans totaling \$5.5 billion in credit assistance to help finance \$12.1 billion for water infrastructure projects while saving ratepayers \$2.3 billion over traditional financing tools and creating 25,000 jobs—including nine WIFIA loans closed and one refinanced since the beginning of March 2020. These recent efforts by EPA’s WIFIA program will save ratepayers over \$1 billion compared to typical bond financing—providing financial support at a critical time as the federal government, EPA and the water sector work together to help mitigate the public health and financial impacts of COVID-19.

Background on WIFIA

Established by the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, the WIFIA program is a federal loan and guarantee program administered by EPA. WIFIA’s aim is to

accelerate investment in the nation's water infrastructure by providing long-term and low-cost supplemental credit assistance for regionally and nationally significant projects. EPA's WIFIA program plays an important part in President Trump's infrastructure plan, which calls for expanding project eligibility. The WIFIA program has an active pipeline of pending applications for projects that will result in billions of dollars in water infrastructure investment and tens of thousands of jobs.

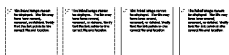
For more information about the WIFIA program's accomplishments through 2019, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-first-wifia-annual-report-highlighting-35-billion-infrastructure-funding>.

For more information about the WIFIA program, visit <https://www.epa.gov/wifia>.

###

oooooooooooooooooooo

Visit The EPA's Newsroom



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20004

Share

Tweet

Share

Forward

[Unsubscribe](#)

To: adm15.arwheeler.email[adm15.arwheeler.email@epa.gov]
From: EPA Press Office[press@epa.gov]
Sent: Wed 8/5/2020 2:01:16 PM (UTC)
Subject: ***MEDIA ADVISORY*** EPA Administrator Wheeler to Hold Virtual Press Conference with Congressman Díaz-Balart, Miami-Dade Mayor Giménez on WIFIA Announcement

On Thursday, August 6, EPA Administrator Wheeler to Hold Virtual Press Conference with Congressman Díaz-Balart, Miami-Dade Mayor Giménez on WIFIA Anno

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

EPA Administrator Wheeler to Hold Virtual Press Conference with U.S. Congressman Díaz-Balart, Miami-Dade Mayor Giménez on WIFIA Announcement

WASHINGTON (August 5, 2020) — On Thursday, August 6, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler, U.S. Congressman Mario Díaz-Balart (FL-25), Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, and Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker will hold a virtual press conference on a Miami Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) announcement.

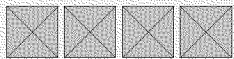
WHO: EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler
U.S. Congressman Mario Díaz-Balart (FL-25)
Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez
EPA Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker

WHAT: Miami WIFIA Virtual Press Conference

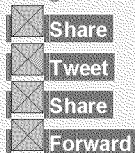
WHEN: Thursday, August, 6
10:00 AM ET

Credentialed media: RSVP to press@epa.gov to attend. This event will be livestreamed [here](#).

Visit The EPA's Newsroom



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20004



[Unsubscribe](#)

Message

From: EPA Press Office [press@epa.gov]
Sent: 6/29/2020 3:30:23 PM
To: adm15.arwheeler.email [adm15.arwheeler.email@epa.gov]
Subject: EPA Announces \$44 Million Water Infrastructure Loan to the City of North Miami Beach

**EPA Announces \$44 Million Water Infrastructure Loan to the City
of North Miami Beach**

*The 24 WIFIA loans issued under President Trump are helping finance more
than \$11 billion in water infrastructure projects*

WASHINGTON (June 29, 2020) – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a \$44 million Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan to the City of North Miami Beach, Florida to help finance the expansion and rehabilitation of its drinking water treatment plant and distribution system. The project will help ensure that this growing city has a reliable supply of safe drinking water to meet future demand.

“This WIFIA loan is the latest investment by the Trump Administration in Florida, and the country’s, water infrastructure,” **said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler**. “This low-cost and effective investment tool is being used to upgrade wastewater and drinking water infrastructure - supporting public health, the environment, and the local economy in this rapidly growing area - all while saving local taxpayers \$130 million.”

Through WIFIA, EPA is playing a key role in President Trump’s efforts to improve and upgrade our nation’s water infrastructure in communities across the country. With this loan closing, EPA has now issued 24 WIFIA loans totaling \$5.3 billion in credit assistance to help finance \$11.7 billion for water infrastructure projects while creating 25,000 jobs.

The North Miami Beach Water Regional Potable Water Improvements project will expand capacity and rehabilitate the Norwood Water Treatment Plant and upgrade the city’s water main distribution system. These improvements will allow the city to meet current and projected 2030 average daily demand and maximum daily demand. The project will also improve overall reliability of the water supply, improve treatment and distribution systems, and reduce the frequency of pressure drops in the water distribution system and main breaks.

“Across the Southeast, WIFIA Loans are supporting cities like North Miami Beach in their efforts to modernize and upgrade water infrastructure,” **said EPA Region 4 Administrator Mary S. Walker**. “These upgrades are key to providing Floridians with clean and safe water while protecting human health and the environment.”

“The City of North Miami Beach is dedicated in taking all necessary measures to improve its water utility infrastructure and to improve the lives of its residents and customers in northern Miami-Dade County. This project will help maintain predictability in bringing sustainable, clean, safe, drinking water to taps. In conjunction with the EPA WIFIA program, we are furthering this mission,” **said Esmond K. Scott, City Manager, City of North Miami Beach**.

This project will cost \$90 million, and EPA’s WIFIA loan will finance nearly half of that figure. Additionally, the remaining project funds will come from a combination of revenue bonds and borrower cash. The WIFIA loan will save the City of North Miami Beach an estimated \$11.5 million compared to typical bond financing. Project construction and operation are expected to create 288 jobs.

Background on WIFIA

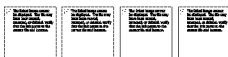
Established by the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, the WIFIA program is a federal loan and guarantee program administered by EPA. WIFIA's aim is to accelerate investment in the nation's water infrastructure by providing long-term and low-cost supplemental credit assistance for regionally and nationally significant projects. EPA's WIFIA program plays an important part in President Trump's infrastructure plan, which calls for expanding project eligibility. The WIFIA program has an active pipeline of pending applications for projects that will result in billions of dollars in water infrastructure investment and thousands of jobs.

For more information about the WIFIA program's accomplishments through 2019, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-first-wifia-annual-report-highlighting-35-billion-infrastructure-funding>.

For more information about the WIFIA program, visit <https://www.epa.gov/wifia>.

###

Visit The EPA's Newsroom



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20004

Share

Tweet

Share

Forward

[Unsubscribe](#)

Message

From: Ross, David P [ross.davidp@epa.gov]
Sent: 6/27/2020 8:11:49 PM
To: adm15.arwheeler.email [adm15.arwheeler.email@epa.gov]
CC: Gunasekara, Mandy [gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James [hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Forsgren, Lee [Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov]; Molina, Michael [molina.michael@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: WIFIA saves borrowers during COVID-19
Attachments: COVID 19 WIFIA Benefits 06.26.2020.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Administrator,

Andrew Sawyers asked his team to put this together. It highlights \$1.1 billion in ratepayer savings locked in during the last 4 months (the core c-19 time period) through the WIFIA program. I really like the concept and wanted to see if you have interest in working this into talking points, issuing a short press release or some other public facing vehicle. We are also happy to edit as needed.

Thanks.

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Aguirre, Janita" <Aguirre.Janita@epa.gov>
Date: June 27, 2020 at 3:57:42 PM EDT
To: "Ross, David P" <ross.davidp@epa.gov>
Subject: WIFIA saves borrowers during COVID-19



The WIFIA program accelerates investment in our nation's water infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost supplemental loans for regionally and nationally significant projects. The WIFIA program was established by the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014.

WIFIA BENEFITS DURING COVID-19

The WIFIA program's low interest rate and structuring flexibilities have been critical in allowing borrowers to preserve greater short-term liquidity and manage recessionary pressures resulting from COVID-19 while moving forward with long-term infrastructure investment.

WIFIA has saved borrowers a total of \$1.1 B from March to June 2020



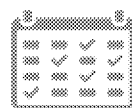
| Borrower | Savings from WIFIA |
|---|--------------------|
| San Francisco Public Utilities Commission | \$226.2 M |
| Inland Empire Utilities Agency | \$152.8 M |
| Miami-Dade County | \$103.8 M |
| City of Wichita | \$96.5 M |
| Seattle Public Utilities | \$52.5 M |
| City of Morro Bay | \$28.6 M |
| City of North Miami Beach | \$11.5 M |
| City of Cortland | \$3.5 M |

One-time interest rate reductions for undrawn loans saves borrowers more money



San Francisco Public Utilities Commission reduced their interest rate on their 2018 WIFIA loan from 3.06% to 1.45%, saving \$432 million over the life of the loan.

Interest rate locks combined with payment deferrals help mitigate rate increases



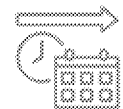
City of Cortland plans to combine its long-term WIFIA interest rate and deferred draw schedule to bring certainty to the full scope of their multi-phase project.

Long-term, low-cost financing drives project acceleration



City of Wichita's WIFIA loan savings allowed them to begin work on their Northwest Water Treatment Facility seven years earlier than planned, providing both environmental and economic benefits to the region.

Long repayment period combined with other flexible features keep customer bills low



Miami-Dade County chose a 35-year repayment period along with repayment deferral after substantial completion to spread out rate increases, relieving financial pressures on their customers.

E-MAIL: wifia@epa.gov
WEBSITE: www.epa.gov/wifia
SIGN-UP: Join our email list at <https://tinyurl.com/wifianews>



Message

From: EPA Press Office [press@epa.gov]
Sent: 6/4/2020 6:00:07 PM
To: adm15.arwheeler.email [adm15.arwheeler.email@epa.gov]
Subject: EPA Announces \$326 Million Water Infrastructure Loan for Miami-Dade County

EPA Announces \$326 Million Water Infrastructure Loan for Miami-Dade County

The 22 WIFIA loans issued under President Trump are helping finance \$10 billion in water infrastructure projects

WASHINGTON (June 4, 2020) – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a \$326 million Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan to Miami-Dade County to help finance the design and construction of upgrades to three wastewater treatment plants. The new loan represents EPA’s second investment in Miami-Dade County’s continuing efforts under the Ocean Outfall Legislation Program to reduce nutrient discharges by 2018, eliminate the use of ocean outfalls by 2025, and reuse 60 percent of wastewater flows by 2025. Miami-Dade County is WIFIA’s first repeat borrower.

“Last spring, I visited Miami-Dade County to announce its first WIFIA loan,” **said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler**. “Today’s second WIFIA loan announcement highlights the flexibility of the WIFIA program to support each borrower in their unique situation. With this loan closing, EPA has now issued 22 WIFIA loans that have helped finance \$10 billion for water infrastructure projects, playing a key role in President Trump’s efforts to improve and upgrade our nation’s water infrastructure, protect water resources and create well-paying jobs.”

The new WIFIA loan will help finance the Wastewater Treatment Plant Electrical Distribution Building Upgrade, which will design and construct five new electrical distribution buildings across Miami-Dade County’s three wastewater treatment plants. Two of the new electrical distribution buildings are part of the Ocean Outfall Legislation Program. The project will construct new electrical facilities that enable the wastewater treatment plants to operate continuously during storm events and minimize the risk of potential untreated wastewater discharges to the ocean. This builds on a prior WIFIA loan to Miami-Dade County that helped finance deep injection wells at the county’s three wastewater treatment plants.

“This WIFIA loan will provide tremendous support to Miami-Dade County in their efforts to modernize and upgrade their wastewater infrastructure,” **said Region 4 Administrator Mary S. Walker**. “By improving water infrastructure, we are improving the quality of life and public health in our communities. Additionally, with this \$326 million loan closing, Miami-Dade County becomes WIFIA’s first repeat borrower.”

“As I’ve stated before, this loan is a significant win for our community, and will have long-lasting impacts on the quality of life of our citizens,” **said U.S. Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25)**. “I thank the Administration once again for continuing to invest in our nation’s infrastructure, and a special thank you to Administrator Wheeler for maintaining our county among his top priorities.”

“Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department is midway through Miami-Dade County’s largest Capital Improvement Program in our history,” **said Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez**. “The investments and upgrades being made will have significant impacts on the environment and the community for decades to come. By accelerating some of these projects through our collaboration with the EPA and the WIFIA program,

we demonstrate that our projects are considered to be both regionally and nationally impactful.”

“Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) is pleased to partner with WIFIA on a second loan to improve our local environment and to harden our assets against sea level rise,” **said WASD Director Kevin Lynskey**. “This joint finance arrangement will save our rate payers over \$100 million over the course of this loan.”

The Wastewater Treatment Plant Electrical Distribution Building Upgrade project will cost \$660 million. EPA’s WIFIA loan will finance nearly half of that figure—up to \$326 million. Additionally, the project will be financed by the Florida Clean Water State Revolving Fund and bonds. The WIFIA loan will save the Miami-Dade County an estimated \$103 million compared to typical bond financing. Project construction and operation are expected to create more than 260 direct jobs.

Background on WIFIA

Established by the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, the WIFIA program is a federal loan and guarantee program administered by EPA. WIFIA’s aim is to accelerate investment in the nation’s water infrastructure by providing long-term and low-cost supplemental credit assistance for regionally and nationally significant projects. EPA’s WIFIA program plays an important part in President Trump’s infrastructure plan, which calls for expanding project eligibility. The WIFIA program has an active pipeline of pending applications for projects that will result in billions of dollars in water infrastructure investment and thousands of jobs.

For more information about the WIFIA program’s accomplishments through 2019, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-first-wifia-annual-report-highlighting-35-billion-infrastructure-funding>.

For more information about the WIFIA program, visit <https://www.epa.gov/wifia>.

Visit The EPA's Newsroom



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20004



[Unsubscribe](#)